## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

O'CONNOR et al Atty. Ref.: 604-697; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unassigned Group: Unassigned

Filed: October 24, 2003 Examiner: Unassigned

For: TIBIAL COMPONENT

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October 24, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: